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UN-HABITAT

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters

Work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the intersessional period

Draft resolutions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of Governing Council resolution 18/1, the secretariat is transmitting, for the consideration of the Council, a letter dated 9 April 2015 from the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) addressed to the Executive Director (see annex).

2. In the letter, the Chair, among other things, requested the Executive Director to bring to the attention of the Council five draft resolutions prepared by the Committee (see appendix). Neither the letter nor the draft resolutions have been formally edited.

* HSP/GC/25/1.

K1500938 150415

Annex

Letter dated 9 April 2015 from the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) addressed to the Executive Director

Sir,

On behalf of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, I have the honour to forward for your attention, copies of five (5) draft resolutions, listed below, which are under preparation by the Committee for submission to the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at its twenty-fifth session. These draft resolutions are being prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, through its Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work, with a view to assisting the Council in its deliberations on some of the issues which will be before it during the session.

In forwarding these draft resolutions to the Governing Council through you, I wish to underline that all the members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives reserve the right of their respective delegations to reopen discussions on any of the draft resolutions during their consideration by the Council. The draft resolutions are as follows:

- Draft Resolution GC25/1: Draft Resolution on the special theme for the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council
- Draft Resolution GC25/2: Draft Resolution on the Strategic plan for 2014–2019 and the work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the biennium 2016–2017
- Draft Resolution GC25/3: Draft resolution on Strengthening National Ownership and Operational Capacity in UN-Habitat's Programme
- Draft Resolution GC25/4: Draft Resolution on Implementing the 2014/2019 Strategic Plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme towards the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.
- Draft Resolution GC24/5: Draft resolution on the official establishment and empowerment of National Habitat Committees as operational entities within National Governments to coordinate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

I would be grateful if, in accordance with paragraph 8 of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 18/1 of 16 February 2001, these draft resolutions could be brought to the attention of the Council, as official documents of the session, for further consideration and appropriate action.

Kindly note that, in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of procedure of the Governing Council, the provisional agenda and other arrangements for the twenty-sixth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (HSP/GC/25/6) is to be brought to the attention of the Bureau of the Governing Council before submission to the Governing Council.

Please accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*)

Dr. Michal Mlynár.

Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to UN-Habitat

Dr. Joan Clos
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director
United Nations Human Settlements Programme
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi

Appendix

[English only]

Resolution 25/1:

Resolution on the special theme for the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council

UN-Habitat's Contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda in Order to Promote Sustainable Urban Development and Human Settlements

The Governing Council,

{N.B. The following preamble follows the original order. Immediately after this, an alternative preamble using the ordering proposed by the EU is provided.}

{PP1}Recalling General Assembly Resolution A/69/226 [on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) ~~that notes with appreciation the role of sustainable urbanization as a transformative force for achieving and advancing sustainable development through an integrated approach that engages all stakeholders, including local authorities, in order to produce innovative solutions to foster economic, environmental and social sustainability~~] {Kenya+};

{PP1 alternate} Recalling General Assembly Resolution A/69/226 ~~[that notes with appreciation the role of sustainable urbanization as a transformative force for achieving and advancing sustainable development through an integrated approach that engages all stakeholders, including local authorities, in order to produce innovative solutions to foster economic, environmental and social sustainability~~]; {Kenya+, option 2}

{PP2}Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled 'The Future We Want', in which Heads of State and Government recognize that, if well planned and developed including through integrated planning and management approaches, cities can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies; and commit to working towards improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers in the context of poverty eradication so that all people have access to basic services, housing and mobility;

{PP3}*Recalling* resolution 17/10 of 14 May 1999 of the Commission on Human Settlements, which requested that urban-rural interdependence be taken into consideration in the execution of the work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) given the strong synergy between urban and rural areas;

{PP4}Recalling also resolution 19/10 of 9 May 2003 which requested the Executive Director to raise awareness regarding the direct relationship between positive urban-rural development and sustainable urbanization and to help develop the capacity of central governments and local authorities in that area, particularly in developing countries;

{PP5}Recalling further resolution 24/10 of 19 April 2013 which requested the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to ensure that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme contributes to the development and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda in order to promote sustainable urbanization;

{PP6}Recalling resolution 24/5 of 19 April 2013 which requested the Executive Director in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to develop a general guiding framework for the development, where appropriate, of national urban policies, based on international good experiences, to further support member States when developing and improving their urban policies;

{PP7}Recalling also resolution 24/3 of 19 April 2013 which encouraged the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in collaboration with member States and Habitat Agenda partners to elaborate a set of agreed universal principles for urban and territorial planning at the city level, in particular regarding planned city extensions, at the regional and the national level, with a particular focus on national urban policies;

{PP8}Taking note that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals [~~recommended~~ proposed] {United States of America+, Kenya-, Tanzania-} that cities and human settlements be addressed by a standalone goal, proposed goal 11, which aims to make cities and human settlements

inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable [~~through targets that cover the issues of access to housing and basic services; slum upgrading; sustainable and safe mobility; urban planning; cultural and natural heritage; disaster resilience; the environmental impact of human settlements; access to safe public spaces; urban-rural linkages; mitigation of the effects of climate change; and sustainable building methods~~] {United States of America+, Kenya-, Tanzania-};

{PP9}[*Recalling* that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals explicitly addressed urban-rural linkages under proposed targets to increase rural investment and support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning;] {Delete all: United States of America+, Kenya-, Tanzania-, Malawi-}

{PP10}[~~*Acknowledging*~~ *Noting*] {United States of America+, Brazil+, Kenya-} the report of the Executive Director on the special theme for the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council: "UN-Habitat's Contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda in Order to Promote Sustainable Urban Development and Human Settlements, sub-theme 1 on enhancing urban-rural linkages across the continuum of human settlements to harness the transformative power of urbanization for sustainable development and sub-theme 2 on UN-Habitat's Role in the Post-2015 Development Agenda";

{PP11}Emphasizing the positive transformative role of urbanization, including reduction in poverty; increased national economic growth[; promotion of healthy and sustainable living environments] {United States of America+, Kenya-}; major progress in human settlements connectivity, which helps boost productivity, create and share opportunities and benefits; the merging of cities and towns into new regional spatial configurations that are conducive to faster economic and demographic growth; and a higher degree of interdependence between rural and urban areas that has helped reduce the vulnerability of rural communities and enhance the prospects of more equitable development;

[*{PP12}Recognizing* that urban-rural linkages tie together a broad range of themes, sectors and an equally broad range of actors across the territory;

{PP13}Also recognizing the transformative potential of urbanization and strengthened urban-rural linkages in achieving sustainable development;] *{The working group requested text merging PPs 12 and 13}*

{PP12/13} *Recognizing* the transformative potential of urbanization and strengthened urban-rural linkages in achieving sustainable development and the way they connect a broad range of themes, sectors and actors in a territory; *{Proposed merged text from the Secretariat}*

{N.B. The following is an alternative ordering of the preamble as proposed by the EU}

{PP1} Recalling General Assembly Resolution A/69/226 [on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat)~~that notes with appreciation the role of sustainable urbanization as a transformative force for achieving and advancing sustainable development through an integrated approach that engages all stakeholders, including local authorities, in order to produce innovative solutions to foster economic, environmental and social sustainability~~] {Kenya+};

{PP1 alternate} Recalling General Assembly Resolution A/69/226 [~~that notes with appreciation the role of sustainable urbanization as a transformative force for achieving and advancing sustainable development through an integrated approach that engages all stakeholders, including local authorities, in order to produce innovative solutions to foster economic, environmental and social sustainability~~] {Kenya+, option 2};

{PP2} Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled 'The Future We Want', in which Heads of State and Government recognize that, if well planned and developed including through integrated planning and management approaches, cities can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies; and commit to working towards improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers in the context of poverty eradication so that all people have access to basic services, housing and mobility;

{PP6} Recalling resolution 24/5 of 19 April 2013 which requested the Executive Director in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to develop a general guiding framework for the development, where appropriate, of national urban policies, based on international good experiences, to further support member States when developing and improving their urban policies;

{PP7} Recalling also resolution 24/3 of 19 April 2013 which encouraged the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in collaboration with member States and Habitat Agenda partners to elaborate a set of agreed universal principles for urban and territorial planning at the city level, in particular regarding planned city extensions, at the regional and the national level, with a particular focus on national urban policies;

{PP5} Recalling further resolution 24/10 of 19 April 2013 which requested the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to ensure that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme contributes to the development and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda in order to promote sustainable urbanization;

{PP8} Taking note that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals [~~recommended~~ proposed] {United States of America+, Kenya-, Tanzania-} that cities and human settlements be addressed by a standalone goal, proposed goal 11, which aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through targets that cover the issues of access to housing and basic services; slum upgrading; sustainable and safe mobility; urban planning; cultural and natural heritage; disaster resilience; the environmental impact of human settlements; access to safe public spaces; urban-rural linkages; mitigation of the effects of climate change; and sustainable building methods;

{PP9} [*Recalling* that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals explicitly addressed urban-rural linkages under proposed targets to increase rural investment and support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning;] {Delete all: United States of America+, Kenya-, Tanzania-, Malawi-}

{PP3} Recalling resolution 17/10 of 14 May 1999 of the Commission on Human Settlements, which requested that urban-rural interdependence be taken into consideration in the execution of the work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) given the strong synergy between urban and rural areas;

{PP4} Recalling also resolution 19/10 of 9 May 2003 which requested the Executive Director to raise awareness regarding the direct relationship between positive urban-rural development and sustainable urbanization and to help develop the capacity of central governments and local authorities in that area, particularly in developing countries;

{PP11} Emphasizing the positive transformative role of urbanization, including reduction in poverty; increased national economic growth[; promotion of healthy and sustainable living environments] {United States of America+, Kenya-}; major progress in human settlements connectivity, which helps boost productivity, create and share opportunities and benefits; the merging of cities and towns into new regional spatial configurations that are conducive to faster economic and demographic growth; and a higher degree of interdependence between rural and urban areas that has helped reduce the vulnerability of rural communities and enhance the prospects of more equitable development;

[*{PP12} Recognizing* that urban-rural linkages tie together a broad range of themes, sectors and an equally broad range of actors across the territory;

{PP13} Also recognizing the transformative potential of urbanization and strengthened urban-rural linkages in achieving sustainable development;] {*The working group requested text merging PPs 12 and 13*}

{PP12/13} *Recognizing* the transformative potential of urbanization and strengthened urban-rural linkages in achieving sustainable development and the way they connect a broad range of themes, sectors and actors in a territory; {*Proposed merged text from the Secretariat*}

{PP10} [~~*Acknowledging*~~ *Noting*] {United States of America+, Brazil+, Kenya-} the report of the Executive Director on the special theme for the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council: "UN-Habitat's Contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda in Order to Promote Sustainable Urban Development and Human Settlements, sub-theme 1 on enhancing urban-rural linkages across the continuum of human settlements to harness the transformative power of urbanization for sustainable development and sub-theme 2 on UN-Habitat's Role in the Post-2015 Development Agenda";

1. [*Encourages* governments to renew their political commitment to sustainable urban development so as to harness the positive role of urbanization in driving growth and sustainability, as well as to address its challenges and reduce its negative externalities;] {Delete all: Brazil+}{Possible revision, Kenya+}

2. [*Further encourages* member states to feature prominently sustainable urbanization [and human settlements]{Tanzania+} as a driver of sustainable development in national and sub-national development plans;] {Delete all: Brazil+}{Possible revision, Kenya+}

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue supporting member states in the development and implementation of their national urban policies to manage the continuum of human settlements;

4. *Requests also* the Executive Director to continue to encourage planned city extensions and infills to manage urban sprawl, reduce per capita rates of energy use [~~and emissions~~] [reduced environmental impact of rural-urban convergences] {EU+, Kenya-} and mitigate further climate change [while also promoting urban [~~health~~][sanitation]{Tanzania+} and sustainability] {United States of America+, Kenya-};

5. *Invites* governments to enable inclusive investment in infrastructure and services across rural service centres as well as of small, intermediate and secondary towns to strengthen linkages, reduce disparity, facilitate rural urbanization and promote balanced growth;

6. *Calls upon* governments to strengthen the capacity of rural service centres, and small, intermediate and secondary towns to attract populations, increase investments, create jobs and reduce reliance on primate cities as a strategy to promote decentralized growth;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Director to continue highlighting the role of sustainable urbanization [and human settlements]{Tanzania+} as a transformative force for achieving and advancing sustainable development [within the post-2015 development agenda]{EU+};

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to [~~play a role~~, consistent with existing mandates,] {United States of America+, Kenya-} [support Member States by providing expertise] {United States of America+, Kenya-} in mainstreaming [potential] {United States of America+, Kenya-} urbanization and human settlements issues [that may emerge from ~~in~~-] {United States of America+, Kenya-} the post-2015 development agenda, [~~particularly by providing expertise in the development of indicators~~] {EU+, Kenya-}; by ensuring policy coherence in the implementation of [~~targets related~~ the relevant parts of the agenda] {EU+, Kenya-} to sustainable cities and human settlements; by contributing [upon Member States' instruction,] {United States of America+, Kenya-}to the implementation of [~~selected relevant targets~~ the agenda] {EU+, Kenya-}; and by [~~localizing~~ promoting the active participation of relevant local authorities and stakeholders in the implementation of]{EU+, United States of America+, Kenya-} the post-2015 development agenda;

9. *Requests further* the Executive Director to develop tools and disseminate good practices to promote urbanization through investments in market towns and intermediate cities and through regional and territorial planning to strengthen development corridors connecting urban areas and their rural hinterlands and ensuring efficient flows between them;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director, [~~in collaboration with~~ [relevant intergovernmental organizations and other] {Brazil+, EU+} [~~appropriate~~] {EU+} ~~partners,~~]{Kenya+} to develop a set of principles [~~and indicators~~]-{EU+, Argentina+} to guide [~~and monitor~~]-{EU+, Argentina+} the [urban-rural continuum approach]{Secretariat to clarify};

11. *Requests also* the Executive Director [~~to establish a global partnership~~] {EU+, Kenya-} to strengthen urban-rural linkages focusing on knowledge exchange, policy dialogue and capacity development in collaboration with other United Nations organizations and appropriate partners;

12. *Urges* [Governments]{Secretariat to clarify vs member states}, with the assistance of UN-Habitat, to initiate or enhance programmes and projects at national or sub-national level to strengthen the capacity of rural service centres, small and intermediate towns to improve the access of rural [and peri-urban]{United States of America+, Kenya+} inhabitants to sustainable urban basic services, including water, sanitation, transportation and energy, as well as access to social and economic services such as health, education, banking, retail and market services;

13. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of UN-Habitat, to enhance the capacity of sub-national and local government authorities to plan and manage sustainable urbanization, to support the continuum of human settlements ;

14. [*Encourages* Governments and partners to provide ~~institutional, technical and financial~~ {EU+, United States of America+, Kenya-}support for the future work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in implementing[, as appropriate,] {United States of America+}the outcomes of post-2015 development agenda, [~~including enhancing urban-rural linkages across the continuum of~~

~~human settlements~~] {EU+} as a means for harnessing the transformative power of urbanization for sustainable development;]

15. *14(bis) Encourages* Governments and partners to enhance rural-urban linkages across the continuum of human settlements as a means for harnessing the transformative power of urbanization for sustainable development; {EU+, Kenya-}

16. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council at its 26th Session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

25th plenary meeting
XX April 2015

Resolution GC25/2

Resolution GC25/2 on "***Strengthening*** ***[the capacity of UN-Habitat*** ~~***National Ownership and Operational Capacity in UN-Habitat's Programme***~~***]***
{EU+, Kenya-}"

{N.B. EU would like a more comprehensive approach to the scope of the resolution}

The Governing council

{PP1} Recalling the General Assembly resolution A/60/1 of 16 September 2005 providing a strong support to the system-wide coherence on the implementation of the United Nations policy, operational and environmental activities, including humanitarian assistance;

{PP2} Recalling further the Paris Declaration of 2 March 2005 on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action of 4 September 2008, addressing[, *inter alia*,] {USA+} the need for scaling up for more effective aid, ownership and a better alignment of aid strategies;

{PP3} Keeping in mind the Rio Declaration of 22 June 2012 on the Future we Want, recognizing that the institutional framework for sustainable development should integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner and enhance implementation by, *inter alia*, strengthening coherence, coordination, avoiding duplication of efforts and reviewing progress in implementing sustainable development;

{PP3bis} [Recalling GA resolution 67/227 reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system;] {Moved from PP5: USA+}

{PP4} Recalling GA resolution A/62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, recalling also the potential of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and its results matrix as the collective, coherent and integrated programming and monitoring framework for the operations of the United Nations development system at the country level, bringing increased opportunities for joint initiatives, including joint programming, and urges the United Nations development system to fully utilize such opportunities in the interest of enhancing aid efficiency and aid effectiveness;

~~*{PP5} [Recalling* GA resolution 67/227 reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system;]~~

{PP6} Reaffirming further the need for strengthening the United Nations and its programmes with a view to enhancing coherence and efficiency in the delivery on their mandates, as well as their capacity to addressing effectively, and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the full range of development issues of which rapid urbanization, mainly in the developing world, is one of the most pressing challenges of our time;

{PP7} Recognizing that the strength of the United Nations and its operational system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner ~~[for both programme countries and donor countries]~~ {Kenya+};

{PP8} Recalling UN-Habitat's crucial role in supporting national and local governments to build capacity to promote sustainable urbanization as a driver of development, as well as advocating for a well-prepared and planned urban development;

{PP9} Welcoming the new strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period of 2014-2019, providing a conducive framework for realizing a model that links normative and operational activities, and thus paving the way for achieving well defined and tangible results for a greater impact in the field;

{PP10} Reaffirming UN-Habitat's support to the United Nations efforts through [inputs, as appropriate, to]{Kenya+} the annual report by the Secretary-General on the implementation of [~~the ECOSOC resolution, on~~]{USA+, Kenya+} the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) providing Member States with an overview of the results achieved, as well as measures and processes implemented in the follow-up to the QCPR resolution, including both the analysis of the funding of UN operational activities for development and the implementation of the QCPR framework;

{N.B. Group of African states to provide new PP on the succession to AMCHUD.}

{PP11} Recognizing the need for appropriate [tools and business processes] to enable UN-Habitat to implement efficiently and effectively its operational activities in the field;

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to work closely with the UN Secretariat and the UN Development Group to [fully] {EU+} implement the QCPR [~~provisions on planning and budget~~] {EU+, Kenya+} in UN-Habitat's programme of work, with a view to increasing substantially the efficiency of [business processes] {Kenya+} [~~in the field~~] {EU+}, so as to improve the effectiveness of development results;

2. *[Further requests* the Executive Director to consult with the Secretary-General with a view to developing appropriate tools and business processes to meet efficiently and effectively the operational demands in the field;] {Kenya+}

3. *Urges* UN-Habitat to enhance its Habitat Country Programme Document mechanism, [~~aligned more fully within~~ to ensure full alignment with] {EU+} the UN Development and National Development Framework's [priorities] {Tanzania+} of the relevant country as appropriate, with a view to strengthening national ownership of UN-Habitat's country level activities;

4. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to work closely with national government and UN country teams to fully incorporate its work into the UNDAF model or equivalent, and to engage actively with the United Nations Delivering as One Agenda;

5. *Further encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its constructive collaboration with inter-governmental mechanisms such as MINURVI[, AMCHUD] {Kenya+}, APMCHUD, the African Union Specialised Technical Committee [on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Centralisation, formerly AMCHUD] {Kenya+} responsible for Urban Development, the Arab Ministerial Conference on Housing, and others that could provide opportune vehicles for driving policy change and programming, and regional and national prioritization of urbanization;

5bis. Commends UN-Habitat's success in achieving IPSAS compliance as of January 1st 2015 and urges UN-Habitat to continue to make all efforts possible towards implementation of Umoja by June 1st 2015;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on the implementation of the current resolution to the next session of the Governing Council.

Resolution GC25/3

Resolution 25/3: Strategic plan for 2014–2019 and the work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the biennium 2016–2017

The Governing Council,

Recalling the commitments made by Governments in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to achieving, *inter alia*, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to reducing by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015,

[~~Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", and its commitment to planning and building sustainable cities and other human settlements, while underscoring the need for approaches that enhance overall coherence, reduce fragmentation and overlap, and increase effectiveness, efficiency and transparency, while strengthening coordination and cooperation.~~] {EU+ to replace}

~~*[Alternate PP2] [Welcoming* the outcome document entitled "The Future We Want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, in particular paragraphs 134 to 137 on sustainable cities and human settlements in which, *inter alia*, it is recognized that cities are engines of economic growth which, if well planned and developed including through integrated planning and management approaches, can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies.]~~ {EU+}

{Alternate PP2} [*Recalling* General Assembly Resolution 69/226 in which the General Assembly reaffirmed the outcome document entitled "The Future We Want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, in particular paragraphs 134 to 137 on sustainable cities and human settlements in which inter alia it is recognized that cities are engines of economic growth which if well planned and developed including through integrated planning and management approaches can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies.] {Kenya +, EU+}

{New PP 2 bis} [Underscoring the importance of integrated approaches that enhance overall coherence, promote effective rural-urban linkages, and improve the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers, in the context of poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development, so that all people have access to basic services, housing and mobility.] {Egypt+, EU to reflect}

[~~*Also welcoming]*~~-[*Taking note of*] {United States of America+, Kenya -, Argentina -}[*Acknowledging*] {Brazil+} [*Bearing in mind*] {Brazil+}[*Recalling* GA resolution – on]{Kenya+} the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, [including] [~~especially the~~] {United States of America+, Argentina+}[particularly] {Kenya+} goal eleven to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, [and emphasising the need to develop an appropriate indicator and monitoring framework that is science based, practical, flexible and achievable and in support of the post-2015 agenda at all levels;] {United States of America+, Kenya -, Argentina-, Brazil-}]{EU +, Colombia+ delete all paragraph, Kenya-}

Taking note of the progress made to date in the implementation of the strategic plan for 2014–2019, as reported through the annual progress report, and also the findings from evaluations of UN-Habitat activities,

Noting [the recommendation of the recent OIOS evaluation {full title of report to be added, Kenya+} ~~steps taken~~]-{United States of America+, EU-}to improve the implementation by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme of its strategic plan and work programme, including policies and systems to manage risk and {United States of America+, EU+}improve efficiency and productivity, measures to enhance accountability and transparency, and clearly articulated strategic priorities,
{N.B. language to be amended to reflect specific recommendations of the OIOS report as appropriate, Kenya+}

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012, on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nation system,

~~*Recalling* its resolution 23/11 of 15 April 2011, requesting the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to prepare a strategic plan for 2014–2019 for submission to the Governing Council for review and approval at its twenty-fourth session.~~ {Agreed ad ref. 07/04 11.32}

Further recalling its resolution 24/15 of April 2013, requesting the Executive Director, working in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to ensure that the results-based strategic framework and work programme and budget documents for the biennium 2016-2017 were aligned with the strategic plan for 2014–2019,

[Having considered the proposed work programme and budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 2016–2017 and the recommendations set forth in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,] {EU+ pending review of the report}

1. Approves the proposed work programme and budget for 2016-2017 {Japan+, agreed} [taking into account the relevant decisions of the Governing Council]{Kenya+}; ~~{Japan+, agreed}~~

1. [{bis} *Approves* the general purpose budget of 45,617,500 United States dollars and endorses the special purpose budget of 101,297,500 United States dollars for the biennium 2016-2017 detailed in the proposed work programme and budget for 2016-2017 and notes an estimated technical cooperation funding of 312,909,000 United States dollars;] {EU+, United States of America+

reservation] {N.B. Several members requested a clarification on the budget figures in this paragraph and the Secretariat will provide this as soon as possible.}

2. [*Notes* that the general purpose resources are allocated for the biennium 2016-2017 for the purposes indicated in the following table (thousands of United States dollars): General purpose resources for the biennium 2016-2017 (thousands of United States dollars)]

General purpose resources for the biennium 2016–2017
(thousands of United States dollars)

		Amount
1.	Urban legislation, land and governance	3 113.2
2.	Urban planning and design	4 236.9
3.	Urban economy	3 348.6
4.	Housing and slum upgrading	3 637.6
5.	Urban basic services	3 889.8
6.	Risk reduction and rehabilitation	4 426.2
7.	Research and capacity development	4 453.5
8.	Sub-total sub-programmes	27 405.8
9.	[Executive direction and management] {United States requests clarification of amount}	[13 775.7]
10.	[Programme support] {United States requests clarification of whether includes field, executive management or both}	[4 736.0]
11.	Total	45 617.5

{EU+ reservation} {N.B. Several members requested a clarification on the budget figures in this paragraph and the Secretariat will provide this as soon as possible.}

3. *[[~~Requests~~]* *[Notes]* {United States of America+, Egypt-, Kenya-, EU-} the Executive Director's [in his] {United States of America+, EU-, Kenya-, Mexico-} efforts to mobilize resources for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to take [urgent] {EU+, Egypt+, Norway+, Mexico+} measures to broaden the donor base of the Foundation's general purpose budget and to develop, in consultation with member States, [opportunities to ensure] [~~tools to ensure a greater and~~] {United States of America+, EU-, Kenya-} more balanced contributions {United States of America+} by member States to the overall budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;] {Kenya reservation}

4. *Also* requests the Executive Director to consult with the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the preparation of the results-based strategic framework and work programme and budget documents for the biennium 2018–2019, and to ensure that the two documents are aligned with the strategic plan for 2014–2019;

5. *Calls* upon the Executive Director to report annually to Governments through the Committee of Permanent Representatives and to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session on progress made [in resource mobilization and ~~in~~]-{EU+, Kenya- Norway +} implementation of the strategic plan[, outcome level performance, financial status and expenditures, and evaluation) Norway+] {United States of America+, Kenya-} and work programme activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue mainstreaming cross-cutting issues in the programmes, projects and activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in line with its mandate, and to allocate adequate resources [accordingly]; {Argentina+, EU-} [in accordance with national priorities and needs]{Argentina+, Kenya+, Egypt+, Uganda+, EU-} [in consultation with member states'] {United States of America+};

N.B. Resolution 24/15 "Requests the Executive Director to continue mainstreaming cross-cutting issues in the programmes, projects and activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in line with its mandate, and to allocate adequate resources accordingly;"

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue strengthening implementation of results-based management in all the programmes, projects, policies and activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and to allocate adequate resources accordingly;

8. *Authorizes* the Executive Director, [~~with a view to ensuring better conformity with the practices in other United Nations bodies~~], {United States of America+, Egypt-, Uganda-} to reallocate resources between subprogrammes up to a maximum of 10 per cent, [upon ~~and to~~ consultations with]

{United States of America+, Egypt-, Uganda-} the Committee of Permanent Representatives in respect of any allocation above that contained in the programme of work and budget approved by the Governing Council;

N.B. EU and Egypt note reservation pending discussions on Governance resolution.

9. ***Also authorizes*** the Executive Director, if necessary, to reallocate funds in excess of 10per cent and up to 20 per cent of the allocations to the subprogrammes, [~~in~~]-[after] {Egypt+}consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

Chair's proposal based on Russian request for a possible paragraph combining paragraphs 8 and 9:

Authorizes the Executive Director, in respect of any allocation above that contained in the programme of work and budget approved by the Governing Council, to reallocate resources between subprogrammes up to a maximum of 10 per cent, and to reallocate resources between subprogrammes in excess of 10% and up to a maximum of 20 per cent upon consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

~~9.~~10. ***Further authorizes*** the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them in line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations;

~~10.~~11. ***Reiterates*** its call to all member States for continued financial support to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme through increased voluntary contributions and [~~invites~~] [encourages] {EU+} more Governments and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and to increase non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of the strategic plan for 2014–2019;

~~11.~~12. ***Requests*** the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme of General Assembly resolution 67/226;

13. ***Further requests*** the Executive Director to [increase his emphasis on impacts of UN-Habitat's activities as well as] [~~maintain his current emphasis~~]-{EU+, United States of America+Norway +} on results for the achievement of the programme objectives, and for the efficient and transparent use *of* resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of review, evaluation and oversight;

[13bis *Urges* the Executive Director to report annually to governments through the Committee of Permanent Representatives and to the Governing Council at its 26th Session on progress made in implementation of recommendations contained in the evaluation of the Office of the Internaal Oversight Services (OIOS) with particular emphasis on those pertaining to risk management, resource mobilization, and information and knowledge management.] {United States of America+}

~~12.~~14. ***Requests*** the Executive Director to continue to ensure that trust funds and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work [and the Strategic Plan] {EU+, United States of America+, Uganda- } [and its mandate] {United States of America+, Uganda- EU + Norway + Egypt -};

~~13.~~15. ***Also requests*** the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council for approval at its twenty-sixth session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined programme of work and budget for the biennium 2018–2019 [~~that monitors and manages~~ that captures] {United States of America+ EU -}the share of resources devoted respectively to administrative costs and programme activities, while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources to programme activities;

~~14.~~16. ***Requests*** the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Additional paragraphs proposed by United States of America:

~~-~~(operational) *Commends* the extraordinary efforts UN-Habitat has made to achieve IPSAS implementation as of January 1, 2015, and ~~calls upon~~requests the Executive Director +EU ~~UN-Habitat~~ EU+to achieve full implementation of Umoja enterprise resource planning tool, ~~including adequate training of all appropriate staff~~ by June, 2015 and to ensure adequate training for all the staff EU+, Kenya+

((operational) *Expresses* disappointment that the changes to the UN-Habitat Strategic Framework 2016 2017 EU + document requested by UN Comptroller and then endorsed by the Committee for

Programme and Coordination (CPC) were introduced without appropriately informing C-ommittee of Permanent Representatives who concurred with the Framework on (date). Effectively the changes made significantly altered the document's substantive policy relevant content.EU + Norway+) Mexico + Kenya- Zimbabwe (language)

((operational) *Further* expresses grave concern that new language was added to the Strategic Framework subsequent to the CPR's concurrence and prior to the CPC review, outlining specific mandates for UN-Habitat in its support for the 2016 Habitat III Conference, and emphatically stresses that the General Assembly has decided in (Resolution xxx) to create the Habitat III Secretariat, an entity independent from UN-Habitat, and empowered it with a clear mandate to decide specific contributions of various UN entities and other organizations and actors in support of the Habitat III Conference.EU+ Norway+) Mexico +Kenya-

((operational) *Requests* the ED to ensure appropriate consultation with the CPR on the Strategic Framework and Work Programme 2018-19 including of any changes throughout the approval process between the sessions of the Governing Council.EU+ Norway+) Mexico +Kenya-

(operational) *Urges* the Executive Director to report annually to Governments through the Committee of Permanent Representatives and to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session on progress made in implementation of recommendations contained in the Evaluation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) AC.51/2015/2, with particular emphasis on those pertaining to risk management, resource mobilization, and information knowledge management. EU +

Resolution 25/4:

Omnibus Resolution 25/4: "*Implement*[~~*ingation- of*~~] {*Brazil+*}*the 2014/2019 Strategic Plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme* [~~*towards the Habitat III Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development*~~] {EU+, Brazil+, United States of America+, Uganda-}"

The Governing Council,

[{*PP1*}*Recalling* to its resolution 24/15 of 19 April 2013 by which it approved the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2014-2019 and its work programme and budget for the biennium 2014-2015;

{*PP2*}*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 67/216 of 17 December 2012 and its provisions, which have been reflected as core components of the substantive thematic areas of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat and underlining that, in view of the current rapid urbanization process, the development and promotion of adequate infrastructure and basic services as well as more effective urban planning and design, are of utmost importance for the creation of socially inclusive, resilient, economically prosperous and energy-efficient cities that maximize the benefits of agglomeration economies, minimize the demand for urban mobility and transport, and provide conditions necessary for urban economic growth and job creation;

{*PP3*}*Taking note of* General Assembly resolution 59/239 of 22 December 2004, calling for the empowerment of non-governmental organizations, including women's groups, youth organizations and professional groups, to play a more effective role in the implementation of UN-Habitat's mandate;

{*PP4*}*Further recalling* resolution 20/16 of 8 April 2005 – enhancing the involvement of civil society in local governance, which requests UN-Habitat, and other partners to assist in developing the capacity of civil so that it can play and effective role in local governance;

{*PP5*}*Concerned* that currently over 50 per cent of the global population lives in cities and that this share will continue to grow with a majority of the urban population currently being below the age of 30 and that sustainable urban development, therefore, has become one of the most pressing global challenges of the twenty-first century, and that Governments must consequently pay greater attention and make joint efforts to build greener, more harmonious, equitable, inclusive and environment-friendly cities;

{*PP6*}*Recalling* the targets set out in the 2000 United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2001 Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium towards achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020;

{*PP7*}*Recognizing* that goal 7 of the Millennium Development Declaration has been achieved by improving the living conditions of more than 220 million slum dwellers, surpassing the target of 100 million, but that, in the meantime, an additional 360 million slum dwellers have been added to the global urban popu!ation, which calls for new approaches to slum prevention and upgrading;

{PP8}*Recognizing further* that slums are not a stand-alone phenomenon but that they are linked to urban poverty, inequalities and the lack of mixed urban land use as well as inadequate land and housing options, and that slum upgrading must be part of a broader framework of urban and housing policies underpinned by urban planning as a tool to prevent the formation of new slums;

{PP9}*Welcoming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", and its commitment to planning and building sustainable cities and other human settlements, while underscoring the need for approaches that enhance overall coherence, reduce fragmentation and overlap, and increase effectiveness, efficiency and transparency, while strengthening coordination and cooperation;

{PP10}*Recognizing* that training, education and capacity building programmes comprise multiple forms of knowledge creation and transfer that are fundamental to the realization of the goals set for the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Urban Development (Habitat III);

{PP11}*Recalling* its resolutions 20/1, 21/6, 22/4, 23/7, 24/11 and 24/12, emphasizing the need for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and Member States to systematically integrate youth as a partner in sustainable urbanization and as part of national delegations, and to strengthen the role of youth in all parts of the work of UN-Habitat;

{PP12}*Recognizing* General Assembly Resolution A/RES/68/188 on "The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015" and its request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide substantive contributions to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with regard to efforts to complement the development of United Nations guidelines on safer cities;

{PP13}*Recalling* its resolution 22/3, which reflected on the relationship between urbanization and climate change and which laid the foundation for UN-Habitat's engagement in addressing the impacts of climate change on cities and other human settlements;

{PP14}*Also recalling* its resolution 24/3 of 19 April 2013 on "Inclusive and sustainable urban planning and elaboration of international guidelines on urban and territorial planning" that requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to initiate the elaboration of international guidelines on urban and territorial planning to provide a global framework for improving policies, plans and designs for more sustainable, compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities and territories, and to present the draft guidelines to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session for approval;

{PP15}*Recalling further* resolution 24/3 requesting UN-Habitat to promote responsible planning in Member States through capacity-building and awareness-raising among local governments and with the involvement of people, focusing on the urban poor, to create healthier and sustainable cities, and resolution 24/9, which embraced the paradigm shift elaborated in the Global Housing Strategy and that requested UN-Habitat to achieve the expected outcomes of the Global Housing Strategy through supporting national and local governments and key Partners in formulating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating inclusive national and local housing strategies;

{PP16}*Recalling* its resolution 24/4, which called upon the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to gradually expand the scope of the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund and to rename it the "Urban Basic Services Trust Fund" to increase site servicing in its work programme, including sustainable solutions for water and sanitation, energy, mobility, waste management and drainage;

{PP17}*Taking note* of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held in Sendai, Japan from 14-19 March 2015, which endorsed the successor agreement to the Hyogo Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction;

{PP18}*Reiterating its support* for the World Urban Forum and recognizing that it is the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental stakeholders and expert practitioners in the field of human settlements, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Colombia and the city of Medellin for hosting the seventh session of the Forum from 5 to 11 April 2014;

{PP19}*Takes note* of the Medellin Declaration, adopted at the seventh session of the World Urban Forum, in which Governments, the private sector, international organizations, academia, professionals, civil society and other social actors reaffirmed the importance of cities in sustainable development;

{PP20}Recognizes the World Urban Campaign as a key platform for public, private and civil society actors to share urban solutions, and *welcomes* the first Urban Thinkers Campus held in Caserta in October 2014;

{PP21}Welcoming the "three legged" strategic track pursued by UN-Habitat in addressing the challenges of urbanization, integrating legal, political, urban design and financial modelling approaches in a coherent manner;

{PP22}Appreciating the ongoing efforts by UN-Habitat to speed up the implementation of its strategic plan and work programme through a set of key targeted policies and systems to improve efficiency and productivity, as well as steps to enhance accountability and transparency, and clearly articulated strategic priorities;]

{The following four preambular paragraphs provide a short preamble that was considered by the CPR as an alternative to the above 22 paragraphs on 27th March:}

[*Recalling* its relevant resolutions and decisions on the coordinated implementation of the mandate of UN-Habitat, sustainable urbanisation and human settlements, including its resolution 24/15 of 19 April 2013 by which it approved the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2014-2019 and its work programme and budget for the biennium 2014-2015;

Recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled "The future we want", and 69/266, "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)";

Taking note of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held in Sendai, Japan from 14-19 March 2015, which endorsed the successor agreement to the Hyogo Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction;

[*Appreciating* the ongoing efforts by UN-Habitat to facilitating ~~speed up~~ {EU+, Kenya -, Tanzania -} the implementation of its strategic plan and work programme through a set of key targeted policies and systems to improve efficiency and productivity, as well as steps to enhance accountability and transparency, and clearly articulated strategic priorities;]] {Delete full para: Brazil+, Kenya -}

1. [~~*Approves*~~ *Acknowledges*] {United States of America+, Japan+} the present omnibus resolution as an [effort to create an] {United States of America+} integrated compact of actions and measures[, within existing resources,] {United States of America+} required to further UN-Habitat's work towards the objectives laid out in the Strategic Plan 2014-2019[, and the Work Programme and Budget 2016-2017] {Japan+} [~~and thus develop strategic results and direction towards the Habitat III Conference,~~ [~~critical in shaping the New Urban Agenda~~]{Argentina+}] {EU+, Uganda+}; {Delete full para: Brazil+, Uganda-}{move para to preamble: Kenya+}.

2. *Requests* [~~UN-Habitat~~ the Executive Director] {Brazil+} to further develop [and strengthen the linkages between normative work and technical cooperation ~~its hybrid model of normative work supporting technical cooperation~~] {EU+} with member states[, particularly with developing countries] {Uganda+} with a view to achieving in full the results expected from the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019;

3. [[~~*Encourages*~~ *Requests*] {United States of America+, Egypt-} Member States, [~~whether through the provision of Overseas Direct Assistance (ODA) or through the allocation of national resources,~~] {Egypt+, EU+} to expand [their voluntary contributions and ensure] {Egypt+} the predictable financing of UN-Habitat's Programme of Work;] {Delete full para: Brazil+, Uganda+, Egypt+, Japan+, Kenya+, EU+, Argentina+, Colombia+, Mexico+}

N.B. *United States of America to provide language to combine paragraphs 3 and 4.*

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to further deepen the evidence base for results in UN-Habitat's work, [~~including through the strengthening and adjustment~~ through the effective implementation] {EU+} of Results-Based Management methodology, with a view to demonstrating [~~to development partners and donors~~] {Kenya +, Egypt+} the impact of UN-Habitat's work; {Brazil+ delete para, Japan+}

5. *Calls upon* the Executive Director to continue and accelerate the development of programmes and projects that implement an integrated approach to sustainable urbanisation, bearing in mind the [~~well-established~~ strong] {United States of America+} link between sustainable development and sustainable urbanisation;

6. [*Also urges* the Executive Director, [~~with a view~~ -] {Uganda+, EU-} to support[ing] {Uganda+, EU-} the debate and preparation for the Habitat III conference [and the process for adoption of the New Urban Agenda, in accordance with the Strategic Plan of UN-Habitat] {Uganda+, Kenya+} and the adoption of a new urban agenda, in line with the [three legged approach] {EU+, Egypt+, United States of America+} to urbanisation, to build a strong evidence-based approach of its relevance through the implementation of UN-Habitat's programme;] {USA+ delete full para}

N.B. Secretariat to provide reference for 'three legged approach'

7. [*Requests* UN-Habitat to further strengthen the implementation of the Strategic Plan through the following measures.] {Delete full para Japan+, USA+, Brazil-, Uganda-, Kenya-, Kuwait-}

Substantive focus and Scope

8. *[~~Calls upon~~]* [*Requests* the Executive Director] {Brazil+} *[~~the United Nations Human Settlements Programme~~]* {Brazil+} to expand [~~its~~][his] {Brazil+} efforts [to ~~in~~ bringing] {Brazil+} the voice of local governments [recognising its key mandates in support of sustainable urbanisation and human settlements as well as the broader UN Development System's efforts towards] [~~to~~] {United States of America+} [~~the global~~] {Brazil+} sustainable development [~~agenda~~] {Brazil+} [and have them fully incorporated in the implementation of the outcomes of the post-2015 and Habitat III agendas] {Brazil+, United States of America-}, [recognising the[ir] {Brazil+} important role [that such authorities and communities can play] {Brazil+} in [~~implementing~~] [achieving] {Brazil+} sustainable development, including by engaging citizens and stakeholders and providing them with relevant information, as appropriate, on the three dimensions of sustainable development; ~~and related intergovernmental and UN decision-making processes;~~] {Argentina+, Brazil+, EU-}

{8 alternate} [*Requests* the Executive Director to expand his efforts [~~to bring the voice~~ to enhance capacity building and integration] {Colombia+} of local governments in support of the Organization's key mandates including its support of the broader UN Development System's sustainable development agenda, recognizing that local governments are a key actor in achieving sustainable urbanisation and human settlements and sustainable development;] {United States of America+}

9. *[Recommends* that Local Government be recognized as key actor for the achievement of sustainable development and be [~~fully~~appropriately] {United States of America+}incorporated in the implementation of the outcomes of the post-2015 and Habitat III agendas, in close collaboration with member states.] {Delete all pending decision on para 8: United States of America+, Colombia-}

10. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to support national and local governments in the development of functionally effective legal and institutional frameworks to facilitate urban development that provide for long term objectives, are [~~equitable~~ non-discriminatory] {United States of America+} and inclusive and that provide the most efficient and locally relevant solutions possible, and [[*~~calls upon~~ recommends that]* {United States of America+, Mexico+} Member States [~~to~~] {United States of America+} develop a strong [~~legal~~policy] {Brazil+} framework around urbanization, as appropriate, {United States of America+} in coordination with local governments;] {Delete from calls upon to end: Argentina+, EU-}

{alternate end from 'calls upon'}…[encourages member states to consider, as appropriate, the development of an effective policy framework around urbanisation;] {United States of America+, Argentina+}

{10 bis} [*Calls upon* the Executive Director to continue and accelerate the development of programmes and projects that implement an integrated approach to ensure well established rural-urban linkages that contribute to achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication;] {Egypt+, Colombia+, Kenya+, Tanzania+}

11. *[~~Invites~~Encourages]* {EU+} [~~Governments~~Member States] to [~~place~~include] {United States of America+} "urban and territorial planning" [~~at the centre of~~ in] {United States of America+} their national development policies, with special emphasis on the needs of [members of] {United States of America+} poor and marginalized urban [and rural] {Colombia+} groups;

12. *[Welcomes* UN-Habitat's efforts to support Member States' efforts to establish and further develop*~~Calls for the establishment of~~]* {United States of America+} a Global Network of Planning LABs to [share good practices and to] {Brazil+} assist cities and [~~towns~~ human settlements] {Egypt+} in achieving more compact, socially inclusive, integrated and connected cities and territories that foster sustainable urban development[, promote public health and bolster ~~and~~] {United States of America+} -resilience to climate change through sharing good practices [and enhancing means of

implementation including through fostering international cooperation, building capacities and technology transfer] {Egypt+}[, as appropriate] {United States of America+};

13. *PLACEHOLDER:* Possible language on strengthening access to financing for sustainable urbanisation by local authorities.

14. *Requests* [~~UN-Habitat~~the Executive Director] {Tanzania+} to document and share good practices, develop capacity development tools and innovative partnerships with other United Nations bodies, notably regional economic commissions, as well as development banks, [~~Governments~~Member States], local authorities and their associations, and other Partners to support the [consideration of the] {United States of America+, Tanzania-}application of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning[, as appropriate,] {United States of America+} and their adaptation to local, regional[, and] {Argentina+, United States of America+, Egypt+, EU-} national [~~and supra-national~~] {Argentina+, United States of America+, Egypt+, EU-}~~-~~circumstances;

15. *[~~Invites~~ Requests]* {Brazil+} [~~UN-Habitat~~the Executive Director] {Tanzania+} to further strengthen partnerships and [~~the~~a] {Brazil+} community of practice [approach] {Brazil+} on National Urban Policies as means to support national and local government [as they] {United States of America+} develop and implement national urban policies;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director to develop and implement necessary tools and training programmes [that can be used as guidance] { United States of America+, Argentina+} to strengthen the capacity of urban [and rural] {Argentina+, Colombia+}authorities to generate additional revenue from local sources[, as well as international sources] {Egypt+}-[~~including~~[, as appropriate,] {United States of America+}~~-through land and property based taxes, and to improve municipal financial management and credit worthiness~~]{Egypt+, Argentina+};

{N.B. Secretariat asked to reformulate based on issues raised by members.}

17. *[~~Invites~~Encourages]* {Brazil+, United States of America+} Member States to facilitate[, if necessary] {Brazil+} in coordination with UN-Habitat, {Brazil+} the [~~application~~sharing] {United States of America+} of tools and training programmes [~~to~~with] {United States of America+} urban authorities, with a view to strengthening local government financial, human and implementation capacity;

18. *[~~Requests~~ the Executive Director to forge stronger partnerships with academic and professional institutions and development banks to generate and disseminate information and knowledge on urban economy and finance;]* {moved to 48bis, EU+}

19. *[~~Requests~~Invites]{Brazil+}* member states to incorporate an integrated approach to ~~H~~housing, recognising the strong linkages between ~~H~~housing and ~~S~~sustainable ~~U~~urbanisation [and human settlements] {Egypt+}, and [taking note of UN-Habitat's work in this area through its ~~appreciating the~~] {United States of America+, Egypt+}"Housing at the Centre" approach;

20. *Encourages* therefore UN-Habitat and member states to [consider ~~scale up~~] {United States of America+} the implementation of the Global Housing Strategy, as appropriate, {United States of America+} including through the design of tools and mechanisms to [~~ensure~~ promote] {United States of America+} inclusive housing finance at national and local levels to bridge the housing affordability gap and to contribute to attaining the goal of facilitating access to adequate housing for all;

N.B. Proposal that Secretariat provide a merged 19/20. {Brazil+, Argentina+}

{Alternate 19/20} [Takes note of the "Housing at the Centre" approach, positioning housing at the centre of national urban policies and at the centre of cities, and encouraging UN-Habitat and Member States to consider the implementation of the Global Housing Strategy, as appropriate, including through the design of tools and mechanisms to promote inclusive housing finance at national and local levels to bridge the housing gap and to contribute to the progressive realisation of the right to adequate housing for all.]

21. *Invites* [~~Governments~~Member States] and their partners to continue to formulate and implement national housing strategies, through the increased use of inclusive broad-based participatory processes, and by designing inclusive affordable housing solutions;

22. *PLACEHOLDER:* Strengthening of approach to slum-upgrading, building on past work of PSUP, integrating slum-upgrading models to incorporate the [three legged approach] {terminology to be clarified by Secretariat, EU+, Egypt+}, build on prevention activities;

23. *Invites* member states to [work towards the ~~commit to~~] {Egypt+} [expansion of ~~expand~~] {United States of America+} [~~urban governance systems through~~] {Egypt+, United States of America-, EU-} empowerment of slum communities and the strengthening of institutional mechanisms equipping slum dwellers to contribute to the improvement of the living environment aiming at social upgrading through, *inter alia*, {United States of America+}skills and capacity development, creation of job opportunities particularly for women and youth, public spaces as a concept of urban revitalization, promoting cultural diversity, and through strengthening linkages to the form l settings in rural and urban surroundings of the slum settlements;

24. *[~~Calls upon~~ UN-Habitat Requests* the Executive Director] {EU+} to continue [~~its~~UN-Habitat's] work on urban basic services provision, including [urban water and sanitation, urban waste management, urban mobility and urban energy] {Egypt+, EU-} [[air quality,] {EU+, Egypt-} water, [sustainable] {EU+} [energy services,] {United States of America+} sanitation and waste water [and waste] {EU+} [management, based on the integrated] {EU+, Egypt-} management [of natural resources and biodiversity conservation] {EU+, Egypt-}] {Egypt+, EU-}, and to support the implementation of the Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative ~~[and other efforts to monitor progress under the proposed Sustainable Development Goal~~[s]{EU+} ~~for Water~~] {United States of America+, EU-};

25. *Further calls upon* [~~Governments~~Member States] and other development partners to support the Urban Basic Services Trust Fund to promote [~~equitable~~ non-discriminatory] {United States of America+} [inclusive] {Brazil+} access to urban energy, mobility, water, sanitation, waste management services and drainage [and improved air quality] {EU+};

26. *Requests* Member States to support initiatives aimed at mainstreaming energy efficiency and [~~clean~~sustainable] {EU+} energy systems into housing policies and regulations and support to the Urban Electric Mobility initiative while promoting hybrid and electric mobility as a priority in conjunction with urban policies in support of compact city planning; energy and resource efficiency; transitioning to clean sources of energy and better public transport facilities integrated with safe and attractive non-motorized transport options;

N.B. Consideration to be given to moving 26, and perhaps other, paragraphs to a separate resolution.

27. ~~*Requests* UN-Habitat to expand and strengthen its partnerships with humanitarian and development actors, associations of local governments, professional associations and the private sector to ensure that humanitarian responses become better adapted to the complexities of urban areas, to increase the resilience of vulnerable populations, and to help the most fragile cities become better prepared and more resilient through the capacity building and development of surge capacity, knowledge management, guidelines and tools development, early warning mechanisms, and monitoring;~~ *{moved to 48 quater}*

28. ~~*PLACEHOLDER: Decides* to approve the establishment of an emergency response fund to support UN-Habitat's crucial work in responding to urban needs in emergencies….~~ {Agreed ad ref. 02/04 15.15}

29. *[~~Calls upon~~ UN-Habitat Requests* the Executive Director] {Brazil+} to expand [~~its~~ UN-Habitat's] {Brazil+} capacity for addressing urban displacement related challenges in fragile cities, including through [support for] {United States of America+} planned urban growth and slum prevention, and contributing to global knowledge development by working closely with [relevant UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations] {United States of America+}, *inter alia*, the United Nations High Commission[er] {Nigeria+} for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council;

30. [*~~Calls upon~~Requests*] {Brazil+} the Executive Director [~~of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme~~]{Brazil+} to support Member States, and local governments in particular, [as appropriate,] {United States of America+}in [considering ~~implementing~~] {United States of America+} the ~~successor agreement~~ Sendai to the Hyogo Framework for ~~Action on D~~aster Risk Reduction (2015-2030);

31. [*Calls upon* UN-Habitat to continue its efforts to monitor urban conditions and trends at the global, regional and local levels by assisting the strengthening of national government and local authority capacity to measure, monitor and report on the urban components of the [~~SDGs and the~~] {United States of America+}post 2015 agenda;] {EU+}

N.B. Possible link between this and the resolution on the GC theme may affect need for this paragraph. {EU+}

32. *Requests* [~~UN-Habitat~~ the Executive Director] {Brazil+} to continue [~~its~~UN-Habitat's] {Brazil+} efforts to improve knowledge of sustainable urbanization modalities at the local, national, regional and global levels through its new flagship *World Cities Report*, its regional and national state of the cities reports, its City Prosperity Initiative and through transformation of its Best Practice Programme into an interactive database, as the means of responding to the new knowledge requirements of local and metropolitan governments and to assist the formulation of integrated local and regional policies;

33. ~~*Invites* [governments~~Member States] ~~and Partners to support and expand the collaboration with academic institutions and centres of excellence through the Habitat Partner University Initiative and the establishment of regional Urban Institutes of Excellence to enhance knowledge, learning and innovation for harnessing the opportunities that urbanization processes offer and to provide high-level training and capacity development to local and national governments;~~ {moved to 48 ter}

34. *Requests* [~~UN-Habitat~~the Executive Director] {Brazil+} to [~~further strengthen~~continue to support]{Brazil+} the World Urban Forum as a platform to improve collective knowledge and practice on sustainable urban development, to increase collaboration amongst stakeholders, to raise awareness on the benefits of sustainable urbanisation, [~~and to improve UN-Habitat's effectiveness~~]{Brazil+} [and requests that a strong linkage with the outcome of the Habitat III Conference in 2016 is established at the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2018] {EU+}.

35. *[Welcomes* the successful bid of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in 2018, and *requests* that a strong linkage be established with the outcome of the Habitat III Conference in 2016;] {Delete para, EU+}

Cross-sectorial Issues

36. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to continue pursuing the mainstreaming of youth and gender equality [and human rights] {Egypt+, United States of America-, EU-} perspectives in the agency's normative work and operational programmes and to ensure that youth and gender equality and empowerment remain [an important part ~~fundamental tenements~~] {United States of America+} of the preparatory process for Habitat III and of the substantive content of the New Urban Agenda;

37. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to allocate adequate human and financial resources for continued [~~youth and gender~~] {Egypt+, United States of America-} mainstreaming [of cross-sectoral issues] {Egypt+} in the agency's normative work and operational programmes, [~~based on an increase in contributions from member states~~] {United States of America+};

38. [~~*Encourages* UN-Habitat~~ *Requests* the Executive Director] {Egypt+} to continue capturing lessons from its operational work in helping cities [reduce greenhouse emissions and] {EU+, Brazil-} [to mitigate and adapt to~~address the impacts of~~] {Brazil+} climate change, [widely disseminating those findings across the Organization] {United States of America+}and sharing those findings with policy-makers to facilitate better-informed decision-making;

39. [~~*Calls upon*~~*Invites*] Member States to support the Compact of Mayors, ~~and~~ the City Climate Finance Leadership Alliance and the Resilient Cities Acceleration [n]itiative launched at the Secretary-General's 2014 Climate Summit;

N.B. Merge 38 and 39 {Egypt+, EU-}

40. [~~*Calls upon* UN-Habitat~~[*Requests* the Executive Director] {Brazil+} to [~~progressively~~]—{EU+} strengthen the mainstreaming of [[a] {Brazil+} human rights-based approach[es]] {Brazil+} [approaches that promote respect for human rights] {USA+} to sustainable urban development in [~~its~~—UN-Habitat's] {Brazil+} normative work and operational [~~a~~ctivities~~programmes~~] {Brazil+} [with a view to the full enjoyment of human rights by citizens] {Brazil+}[~~, and especially in its engagement in the post-2015 discussions towards H~~[h]{EU+}~~uman R~~r{EU+}~~ights in C~~c{EU+}~~ities for all~~] {USA+, EU-};] {Delete para: Egypt+, EU-}

41. [*Requests* UN-Habitat to collect best practice case studies in [~~human rights based~~] {USA+} approaches [that promote human rights] {USA+} at the programme and project levels for global learning, leveraging and replicating such practices;] {Delete para: Egypt+}

{Secretariat to reformulate to make the purpose of the paragraph in promoting exchange of experiences clearer. Brazil+}

42. [*Invites* [~~governments~~Member States] and Partners to support UN-Habitat [~~with~~ in the context of the promotion of human rights in cities]{EU+} [financial resources within the context of [*promoting* the above mentioned cross-sectoral issues] {Egypt+} [~~the promotion of Human Rights in Cities for All~~]] {delete from financial, EU+}; {Egypt+},

Advocacy and Partnerships

43. [*Acknowledges* the vital advocacy role of UN-Habitat in promoting the sustainable urban development, *welcomes* the increased interest of member states in challenges and opportunities by sustainable urbanisation, and *requests* the Executive Director to further promote this agenda in support of development of the New Urban Agenda ahead of the Habitat III Conference.] {Delete para: Brazil+, USA+}

44. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting of the first World Cities Day by Shanghai in 2014 [~~in the framework of the "Urban October" concept, and *requests* the Executive Director and Member States to further develop this mechanism to promote public awareness~~]{Brazil+, USA+};

45. *Requests* the Executive Director to work on the engagement of new partners through the World Urban Campaign in order to identify good practices that could contribute to sustainable urban development;

46. *Recognizes* the World Urban Campaign as a key platform for public, private and civil society actors to share urban solutions; welcomes the first Urban Thinkers Campus held in Caserta in October 2014 and requests the Executive Director to work on the engagement of new partners through the Campaign in order to identify good practices that could contribute to the sustainable urban development.

N.B. Secretariat to propose a merged text for paras 44, 45, 46. {EU+, Brazil+, USA+}

47. *Requests* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and Member States to strengthen partnerships, and wherever possible act to build the capacity of partners [and stakeholders, ~~especially local authorities, civil society organisations, women, youth, disabled and old~~ [people's person's]{USA+} ~~organisations, private sector, professional groups, academia, research and scientific institutions.~~] {Egypt+} and [~~ensure~~promote]{USA+} their effective engagement in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of urbanisation and human settlements policies and programmes at the local, national, regional and global levels. Lessons learned from implementation of the Presidential initiative and Strengthening Partnerships for a New African Urban Agenda should be harnessed to inform other regional processes and programmes;

48. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to enhance UN Inter agency coordination, engagement with intergovernmental organisations, and regional development banks in the pursuit of sustainable urbanisation and human settlements development at all levels. This includes active involvement in the UN Regional Coordination Mechanisms, and support to intergovernmental bodies and Regional Economic Commissions;

N.B. Secretariat to revise paras 47 and 48 for clarity and concision. {Brazil+, EU+}

48 bis. Requests the Executive Director to forge stronger partnerships with academic and professional institutions and development banks to generate and disseminate information and knowledge on urban economy and finance; {previously OP 18. EU+}

48 ter. Invites [~~Governments~~ Member States] and Partners to support and expand the collaboration with academic institutions and centres of excellence through the Habitat Partner University Initiative and the establishment of regional Urban Institutes of Excellence to enhance knowledge, learning and innovation for harnessing the opportunities that urbanization processes offer and to provide high-level training and capacity development to local and national governments; {previously OP 33}

N.B Secretariat to provide alternative text combining 48 bis and ter

48 quater [Requests ~~UN Habitat~~the Executive Director to [~~expand and~~ better manage,] {United States of America+} strengthen [and coordinate] {United States of America+} its partnerships with humanitarian and development actors, associations of local governments, professional associations and the private sector [to capitalise on each entity's area of expertise to encourage ~~to ensure~~] {United States of America+} that humanitarian responses become [more efficient and] {United States of America+} better adapted to the complexities of urban areas, to increase the resilience of vulnerable populations, and to help the most fragile cities become better prepared and more resilient through the

capacity-building and development of surge capacity, knowledge management, guidelines and tools development, early warning mechanisms, and monitoring;] {previously OP 27, EU+, Brazil+}

49. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on the implementation of this omnibus resolution and the subsequent provisions relating to the strategic plan of UN-Habitat to the next session of the Governing Council.

N.B. GRULAC to propose additional text on technical cooperation.

Resolution 25/5

Resolution 25/5: Draft resolution on the official establishment and empowerment of National Habitat Committees as operational entities within National Governments to coordinate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

The Governing Council,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 on system-wide coherence which emphasized the principle of national ownership and leadership, took note of the progress made by "delivering as one" countries and re-iterated the objective of simplification and harmonization of business practices, rules and procedures to enhance the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system,

Taking also note of General Assembly resolution 65/165 of 24 November 2010 on the strengthening of UN-Habitat which noted the efforts of UN-Habitat in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their respective development frameworks,

Recalling in preparation for the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul in 1996, many countries established National Habitat Committees (NHCs).These were innovative in that they combined central government, civil society and private sector representatives to engage productively in the urban debate. The committees were reconvened to prepare for Istanbul+5 in 2001. For both events, the NHCs were effective in identifying challenges as well as reporting on achievements in addressing urbanization, housing and slum issues.

Recalling in paragraph 22 of its resolution 62/ 198, the UN General Assembly encourages "…Member States to strengthen or establish, as appropriate, broad-based national Habitat committees with a view to mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction in their respective national development strategies."

Recognizing that, National Habitat Committee is seen by UN-Habitat, as an excellent mechanism to enhance its interaction with key Habitat Agenda Partners at the national level.

Referring to the Report of the Executive Director on the Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Addendum, Third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development, concerning HABITAT III Conference objectives, to undertake a comprehensive critical review and assessment of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant, internationally agreed development goals; to identify major constraints hindering the implementation of the goals set forth in the documents above; to tackle new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the second conference, in order to identify implementing ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the existing governance structure of National Habitat Committees and to identify options for any other potential relevant changes, towards implementing the new outline development agenda that is capable of responding to the new challenges and strengthening the new role of cities and relevant institutional frameworks in sustainable urban development and housing;

Expressing appreciation for the significant assistance and cooperation furnished by Governments and key Habitat Agenda Partners in the UN Member States for implementing the New Habitat Agenda,

Recognizing also that although so efforts made towards achieving the establishment of National Habitat Committees, till October 2014, only 48 countries out of 194 in the UN member States, established their National Habitat Committee, some are only newly established, knowing that National Habitat Committees are highly recognized as an excellent mechanism to enhance its interaction with key Habitat Agenda Partners at the national level;

1- **Encourages and calls upon** member States to officially establish National Habitat Committees, either under the auspices of a relevant mandated ministry or within other proposed official mandated structure, in order to secure the operational and financial empowerment of National Habitat Committees as needed to fulfil the function of providing overall coordination of Habitat Agenda Partners in the planning and implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and other roles as may be defined during the Habitat III conference.

2- **Request** the UN-Habitat Executive Director to secure technical assistance at all levels to support the Intangibleness Character of National Habitat Committee with Governments and key Habitat Agenda Partners in the UN Member States for implementing the New Habitat Agenda.

UNITED NATIONS

HSP

HSP/GC/25/3/Add.2

UN-HABITAT

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters

Work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the intersessional period

Addendum

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat hereby transmits to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on its 56th regular meeting as part of its work for the period 2013–2015.

* HSP/GC/25/1.

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Report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on its work during the intersessional period

Summary

At its 56th regular meeting, held on 8 April 2015, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) adopted its report for the period 2013–2015 for submission to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session for its consideration.

I. Introduction

1. The Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, the intersessional subsidiary body of the Governing Council, held its 56th regular meeting on 8 April 2015.

II. 56th regular meeting, 8 April 2015

2. At the 56th regular meeting, the Executive Director underscored the importance to the Programme of the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) that were scheduled to be held at the headquarters of UN-Habitat in Nairobi in April 2015. He expressed his appreciation to the members of the Committee for their hard work in preparing for the twenty-fifth session, particularly in drafting and discussing the draft resolutions for submission to the Governing Council for its consideration. He provided an overview of his recent missions to Germany, Japan, Rwanda and Sudan and the visit by the Deputy Executive Director, Ms. Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, to the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa. He highlighted the extensive efforts of UN-Habitat in the deployment of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) as well as the new enterprise resource planning project, "Umoja", the implementation of which was expected to commence on 1 June 2015 as planned.

3. For its part, the Committee, through the Chair, approved the addendum to the note by the secretariat on the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the intersessional period (HSP/GC/25/3/Add.1), containing in its annex five draft resolutions prepared by the Committee, for onward transmission to the Governing Council for its consideration.

4. The Committee was informed that the Bureau of the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session had only one member, namely the Rapporteur. Certain members had expressed the view that the rules of procedure of the Governing Council did not provide clear guidance on the replacement of Bureau members during the intersessional period. The Committee discussed the rules of procedure and recommended that the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session review them with respect to the replacement of Bureau members during the intersessional period. The Committee also discussed the options available according to the rules of procedure for the opening of the twenty-fifth session, including by the Rapporteur. The Committee advised the Executive Director to provide information to the members of the Governing Council on the options for opening the session, including the possibility of the Rapporteur opening the session in the absence of the President and in accordance with the rules of procedure.

5. In addition, the Committee reviewed its work during 2015 on the UN-Habitat governance review process, co-chaired by Mr. Akin Oyateru, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to UN-Habitat, and Mr. Tobias Glucksman, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to UN-Habitat (see HSP/GC/25/2/Add.1). The Committee took note of the substantial progress made in the subcommittee meetings and during informal discussions between members on the issue and many representatives expressed optimism about making a recommendation to the Governing Council in that regard.

6. The Chair introduced the report on the work of the subcommittees in the intersessional period.

7. Representatives took the opportunity to commend UN-Habitat in relation to its activities in Rwanda following a field visit to that country undertaken by members of the Committee on 23 and 24 February 2015. They urged UN-Habitat to replicate such activities in other countries upon request and to strengthen information regarding field activities.